



Fire Safety Starts with Me!

Children, adults and elders all play an important role in community fire safety. Since time immemorial, we have a tradition of caring for each other. Our Fire Life Safety program celebrates this holistic approach under the banner *Fire Safety Starts with Me!*

Through interactive education programs we reinforce well-known safety messages such as *Stop Drop & Roll* as well as introducing new concepts. Children are entertained by the informative safety cartoons and enthralled by the equipment demonstration. Whenever it's possible we work with the local fire department and have them participate in the events, creating a positive connection with emergency services personnel at an early age. At the end of the day teachers are provided with material to continue emphasizing the importance of fire safety.

Community workshops for adults are popular with Band, Health and School staff, all of whom turn out eager to learn. During these relaxed yet informative hands-on sessions common questions about smoke alarms and fire extinguishers are answered and some myths dispelled. Participants learn about smoke alarm and fire extinguisher

placement, operation and maintenance. The workshops also cover exit drills at home and work, including building walkthroughs and practice drills. After a few enlightening hours, community members are better equipped to protect themselves and their family in the event of a fire.

During the day FNESS conducts a fire inspection of the buildings that we are working in. This inspection is not to point out what is wrong with the structure, rather to assist communities in emergency planning and to illustrate simple changes that can increase safety for all. We find that delivering the school and adult programs on the same day is the most effective way to get your whole community concentrating on fire safety. Parents, kids and grandkids return home sharing stories of what they learned during the day and apply the theory in their homes.

If we all focus together, both at home and in the work place, we can contribute towards safe, long lives for our children, elders and ourselves. With a little learning and preparation we can be ready to react when the time comes. Contact the office to book your community fire life safety visit today, I look forward to meeting you soon.

by Daren Mini



Spring Cleaning

Spring is here at last and many of us start to think about spring-cleaning our homes. Turn your attention outside and you will notice that as the blanket of snow slowly melts away it reveals dead

underbrush mixed in with spatters of garbage strewn about by the winter winds. A few hours spent cleaning your yard is time well spent protecting your home. Dress warmly, arm yourselves with determination and rakes then follow these tips to surround your home with a Fire Smart yard.

- The first 10 meters around your house is the most critical area to consider for fire protection, and should be kept free of shrubs, trees, deadfall or woodpiles.
- Make sure that your grass is mowed and watered regularly – wind blown grass fires can spread at speeds up to 8.5 kilometers per hour!
- Check your roof and remove any flammable debris
- When you are ready to burn all the debris that you have collected, ensure that you are well away from any structures or wooded areas and that you use a burn barrel.

With your yard taken care of it's back inside to warm up. Whilst the kettle is boiling cast your gaze around the kitchen.

- Test your smoke detectors and replace the batteries if necessary.
- Are your fire extinguishers easily accessible?
- Check that your home insurance is up to date.

For more information on fire prevention, detection and suppression and burning or travel restrictions, contact www.for.gov.bc.ca/protect and remember that you need to maintain your Fire Smart zone for it to be effective.

by Peggy Joe

A Moment with Chadwick Ludman



Chadwick Ludman

FNESS: Please introduce yourself to us.

Chadwick Ludman: My name is Chadwick Ludman, I'm 23 years old and come from Seabird Island. I've lived here for most of my life.

FNESS: What is your role and how long have you been with the department?

CL: I have been a volunteer firefighter with Seabird Island Fire Department for about a year now.

FNESS: What motivated you to join?

CL: I read in our community newsletter that the Fire Department was looking for new recruits. The main things that attracted me were the teamwork, exercise and the opportunity to learn. We are like a family and it feels great to be part of a team.

FNESS: Which aspect of training have you most enjoyed?

CL: The combination of fear and excitement during my first search and rescue exercise was a real rush. My hearing was really heightened as I searched because I couldn't see through my darkened visor.

by Daren Mini

AGM Week Highlights – June 9-13, 2009

Register early for training. Class schedules are posted on our website at www.fness.bc.ca or contact Emma Strench FEMT Coordinator at (888) 822-3388 or (604) 669-7305.

Sign your team up to **be a part of the 25th Anniversary BC Regional Fire Fighters Competition** on June 13. To register and receive your manual, contact Daren Mini or a member of the FEMT department at (888) 822-3388 or (604) 669-7305.

Limited Edition Camo T-shirts on sale now



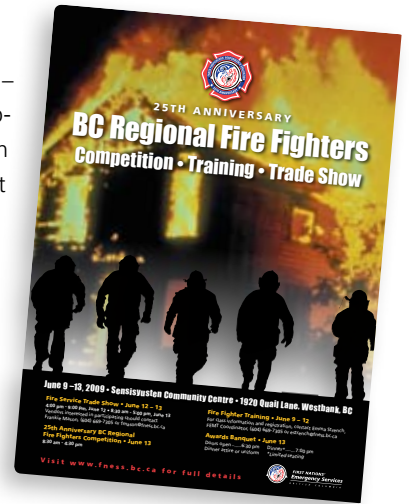
Fire Service Trade Show – View the latest Fire Service equipment and apparatus. Meet with trade representatives. Equipment available for purchase.

Take home great prizes (Fire Service Equipment/training). Participants will receive a draw ticket for each class completed. Team members competing in the competition will receive 2 additional draw tickets. Attend the trade show and get

another ticket. Watch for updates on the website and future issues of newsletter.

Register early for classes and competition don't miss out on all the action!

Show your support by wearing a **limited edition camouflage t-shirt**. Mail your order to the FNESS office, along with a cheque for \$25 per shirt made payable to First Nation's Emergency Services. Be sure to tell us your name, mailing address, phone number and size (M, L, XL or XXL).



Product Recalls

The following products have been recalled due to the risk of a fire hazard. If you have any of the following products in your home or workplace, contact the manufacturers as detailed below.

Ritchie Immersion Heaters with model numbers 17863 (120v/250w), 17939 (240v/250w or 240v/325w), and 17940 (240v/325w) designed to be submerged in a cattle trough to keep the water from freezing.



Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled immersion heater and return it to the place of purchase for a free replacement heater. For additional information, contact Ritchie Industries at (800) 747-0222 or visit the firms' Web sites at www.springfield-wire.com or www.ritchiefount.com.

Kidde XL Fire Extinguishers with model numbers FX340SC, FX340H, FX340GW, XL5MR, FX210R, FX340SC-2, FX210W, XL2.5TCZ-4, E-340-3 and with manufacture dates between October 2007 and April 2008. Consumers should immediately inspect the pressure gauge. If it points to the red zone, contact Kidde at (888) 345-4407 or visit the firm's web site at www.Kidde.com

Maytag Refrigerators with the brand names Maytag, Jenn-Air, Amana, Admiral, Magic Chef, Performa by Maytag and Crosley side by side and top freezer refrigerators. Refrigerators with freezers on the bottom are not included in this recall. Consumers should immediately contact Maytag to determine if their refrigerator is included in the recall and to schedule a free in-home repair, contact Maytag toll-free at (866) 533-9817 anytime, or visit the firm's Web site at www.repair.maytag.com.

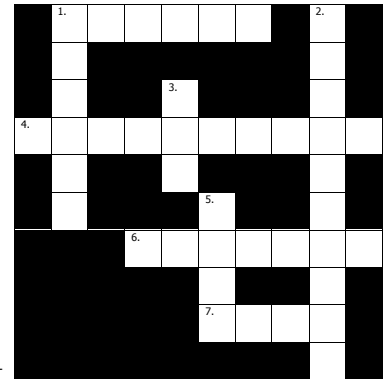
Crossword Corner

ACROSS

1. Large area with many trees
4. Alerts you to danger
6. Structure for passing smoke
7. Safe way out of a building

DOWN

1. Glowing parts of a fire
2. The FNESS 25th Anniversary BC Regional Fire Fighters Competition is on June ____
3. Keep ____ meters clear around your home
5. Process of burning



Return your completed puzzle to be entered into a prize draw

Name _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____

Mailing Address _____



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